

The next two days at least two million butterflies of eight species flew through Natitingou in a north-easterly direction. The bulk were African Emigrants *Catopsilia florella* Fabricius, but one in ten was an African Queen *Danaus chrysippus* Linnaeus which I had never seen migrating before. I am certain that this type of migration is responsible for the sudden appearance of the West African form of *D. chrysippus* in Tunisia and Malta. I have a sneaking suspicion that my small paper on this migration is the only remaining trace of our expedition (see 1978, *Atalanta* 9: 191-198 for details)!—TORBEN B. LARSEN, 358 Coldharbour Lane, London SW9 8PL.

***Plea leachi* Mc Gregor & Kirkaldy (Hemiptera, Heteroptera: Pleidae) in Scotland.**

The distribution of *Plea leachi* McGregor & Kirkaldy (syn. *P. atomaria* (Pallas) and *P. minutissima* Leach) is summarised in Southwood & Leston (1959, *Land and water Bugs of the British Isles*. Warne) as “throughout England and probably just into southern Scotland”. In June 1960, this probability was confirmed by finding *Plea leachi* in a pond at the west end of Torrs Warren, at OS grid ref NX119536, VC74 (voucher specimens in the National Museums of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh). In the years immediately following 1960, this pond was used for dumping waste material and it was not until 1994 that the author tried to refind the bug in other ponds at Torrs Warren, without success (Huxley, 1997, *The Distribution of Aquatic Bugs (Hemiptera-Heteroptera) in Scotland. Scottish Natural Heritage Review* No. 81).

On 17 August 1997, *Plea leachi* was discovered about 35 kilometres away in an approximately one hectare fly-fishing loch near Newton Stewart, at grid ref NX442674 (VC 73, Kirkcudbright). The loch is called Lower Glenamour on the fishing club notice board and Old Mill Dam on the 1:25000 Ordnance Survey *Pathfinder* map 540. On searching the pond net with a hand lens for small molluscs, a juvenile *Plea leachi* was seen, of about 1mm in length and, after about 20 minutes further search, an adult and a larger juvenile. Because the pond has a thickly vegetated margin and dense growth of *Elodea canadensis* over the bottom, the search for further specimens was assisted by washing out fine material into a shallow dish and it was in this that the second juvenile and adult specimen were seen.

From these three specimens (now in the author's collection but ultimately destined to join the earlier collected Scottish specimens in the National Museums of Scotland) it is clear that there is a definite breeding population of this bug in Scotland, in a water body that has existed for well over half a century (according to nearby recollection) and possibly much longer from its name of Old Mill Dam. There are other lochs nearby, including the larger Glenamour Loch, which should be visited in an earlier or later month, August generally being poor for recording adult water bugs, so as to discover whether these also hold *Plea leachi*.—THOMAS HUXLEY, The Old Manse, Pitcairngreen, Perth PH1 3LR.